

New Directions

a year of innovation



The Ontario HIV Treatment Network | Annual Report 2004 – 2005

MISSION

To optimize the quality of life of people living with HIV in Ontario and to promote excellence and innovation in treatment, research, education and prevention through a collaborative network of excellence representing consumers, providers, researchers and other stakeholders.

VALUES STATEMENT

CARING, RESPECT, COMPASSION and RESPONSIBILITY
(for and towards people with HIV/AIDS)

SUPPORT and SUSTAIN EXCELLENCE and INNOVATION
(in HIV research, care and treatment)

Foster LEADERSHIP and build INTEGRITY and ACCOUNTABILITY
(as an organization)

Letter from the President



This has been a year of renewal and new directions for the OHTN.

Beginning in the fall of 2004, the Board of Directors worked closely with all of our stakeholders to develop our new Strategic Plan. Over six months, we held retreats, meetings and consultations with people with HIV, AIDS Service Organizations, health care providers, researchers and policy makers to identify the challenges facing the OHTN and to establish our new directions. The Board unanimously approved the final product *Advancing HIV Policy and Practice Through a Network of Excellence* in March 2005.

We have set ambitious new goals, objectives and activities for the OHTN as we strive to meet our mission: *To optimize the quality of life of people living with HIV in Ontario and to promote excellence and innovation in treatment, research, education and prevention through a collaborative network of excellence representing consumers, providers, researchers and other stakeholders.*

I encourage you to visit our website to review our Strategic Plan and our new program initiatives. In the next five years, it is our goal that the OHTN will have an even greater impact on HIV care, prevention and research not only in Ontario, but throughout Canada and abroad. The knowledge we develop and share will have significant outcomes that will shape HIV policy and practice, leading to substantial improvements in the quality of life of people with HIV.

I congratulate the Board, the staff, our volunteers and all our stakeholders, on an exceptional year. In particular, I want to express my gratitude to our new Scientific and Executive Director, Sean B. Rourke Ph.D., for his outstanding contribution to the OHTN's new directions.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. Flanagan', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

WILLIAM FLANAGAN, JD, DEA, LL.M.
President, Board of Directors
Dean, Faculty of Law
Queen's University
Kingston ON

Letter from the Scientific and Executive Director



It has been a tremendous year of growth, renewed enthusiasm, and new directions for the OHTN!

It is a real privilege and honour for me to step into this new leadership role at the OHTN. Taking over for Dr. Jay Browne is a hard act to follow. Jay was instrumental in the formation of the OHTN with its mission and vision to improve the lives of people with HIV in Ontario. I am committed to realizing the potential of the OHTN to make a significant difference in the fight against HIV and AIDS.

The most significant advancement at the OHTN this year was the development of a new Strategic Plan to 2010 entitled *Advancing HIV Policy and Care Through a Network of Excellence*. With the leadership of the Board of Directors, we have shaped this new plan so that we evolve and address the emerging trends of the epidemic while meeting the changing needs of all of our stakeholders. For the first time, we have aligned our thinking and targeted approach with the Ontario and pan-Canadian HIV/AIDS strategies. Through the building of community-academic-policy partnerships, we will find innovative ways to address the determinants of health and social justice issues that affect the health and quality of life of people with HIV in Ontario, and the factors that put people at risk.

Some of the exciting new initiatives in our new strategy are to: (1) increase the number and capacity of HIV health care providers in the field; (2) support efforts to address the determinants of health through building capacity in scientifically rigorous community-based research; (3) invest in research that will have an impact on care and policy today; (4) support the development of innovative and effective eHealth technologies to improve the health of people with HIV; (5) enhance and sustain the OHTN Cohort Study to inform care and treatment decisions; (6) support knowledge transfer and exchange expertise; and (7) monitor and evaluate all OHTN activities to ensure that we have clear targets to measure our outcomes. These are just some of the highlights. I encourage you to take the time to read our new Strategic Plan to 2010 for more of the details.

As we embark together on these new directions and initiatives, I am confident that with our commitment, energy and expertise in Ontario, our work and the impact we will have for people with HIV will reach beyond the boundaries of our province.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Seán B. Rourke".

SEAN B. ROURKE, PhD
Scientific and Executive Director
Associate Professor of Psychiatry, University of Toronto
Adjunct Professor of Psychology, University of Windsor

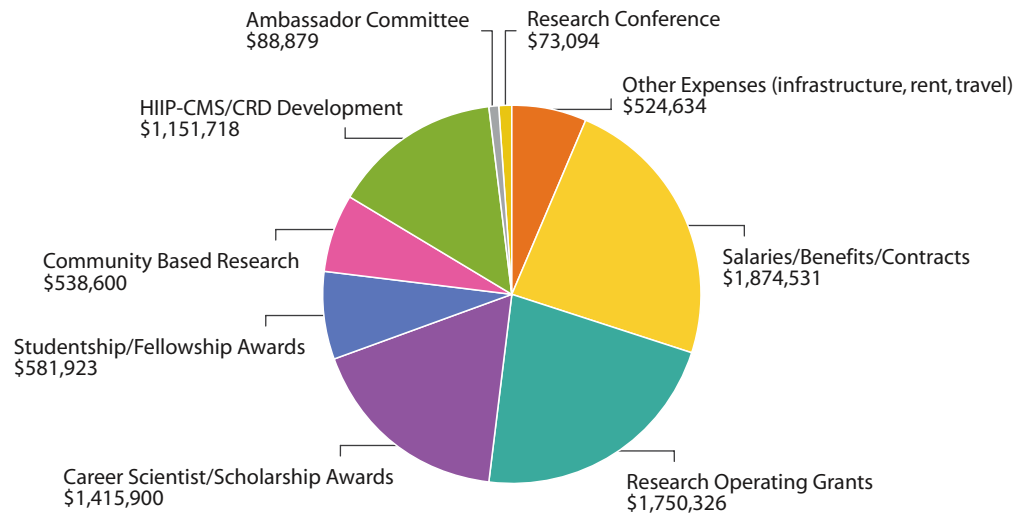
Financial Statement

2004-2005

*This statement was audited by
PricewaterhouseCoopers.*

	2004 - 2005	2003 - 2004
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash	\$ 2,468,939	\$ 1,144,931
Accounts receivable	47,184	26,258
Prepays	44,642	16,405
	<u>2,560,765</u>	<u>1,187,594</u>
Capital Assets	188,291	106,877
	<u>2,749,056</u>	<u>1,294,471</u>
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	2,560,765	1,187,594
Deferred revenue	188,291	106,877
	<u>2,749,056</u>	<u>1,294,471</u>
REVENUES		
Grant from AIDS Bureau	8,000,000	8,000,000
Less: unspent grant	46,763	60,680
	<u>7,953,237</u>	<u>7,939,320</u>
Amortization of deferred revenue	60,823	58,478
Interest	46,368	56,539
	<u>8,060,428</u>	<u>8,054,337</u>
EXPENSES		
Priority Initiatives Program	664,536	997,045
Investigator Driven Research Program	3,833,900	3,012,192
HIV Information Infrastructure Project and HIV Ontario Observational Database	1,151,718	1,422,071
Salaries and benefits	1,874,531	1,927,305
Office administration and rent	474,920	637,246
Amortization	60,823	58,478
	<u>8,060,428</u>	<u>8,054,337</u>

OHTN Resource Allocation



Leadership 2004-2005

*The OHTN owes its success
to the dynamic energy of
its volunteers.*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

William Flanagan, JD, LLM (President)
Jonathan Angel, MD (Vice-President)
Shawn Andress (Treasurer)
Peggy Millson, MD (Secretary)
Gloria Aykroyd
Alan Cochrane, PhD
Tony Di Pede
Jennifer Furtney
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Don Kilby, MD
Irene Masinde
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Frank McGee
Anita Rachlis, MD
Paul Saulnier
Albert Simhon, PhD

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Meri Gec (Ex-Officio)
Vicki Kett
Patrick Cupido
Stephen McDonnell
Sean B. Rourke, PhD (Ex-Officio)

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William Flanagan, JD, LLM
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Sean B. Rourke, PhD (Ex-Officio)

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Rick Kennedy
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Rob MacKay
Stephen McDonnell
Sean B. Rourke, PhD (Ex-Officio)

HIV INFORMATION INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT (HIIP) ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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Patrick Cupido
Robert Desarmia
Tony Di Pede
Peter Ford, MD
Steve Harris
Mona Loutfy, MD
Rob MacKay
Robert Remis, MD
Darien Taylor
Pius White

Ex-Officio Members

Mark Fisher
Frank McGee
Anita Rachlis, MD
Ron Rogers
Carol Swantee

HIIP Research Advisory Committee

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Robert Desarmia
Peggy Millson, MD
Ted Myers, PhD
Robert Remis, MD
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PRIORITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Ron Rosenes (Chair)
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Rob MacKay
Frank McGee
Laverne Monette, LLB
Stanley Read, MD, PhD
Paul Saulnier
Robert Vanidour

Ambassador Committee

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Judith Glennie
Glenn McAuley
Frank McGee
Susan Paetkau

**Care and Treatment
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Stanley Read, MD, PhD (Chair)
Reina Bendayan, PhD
Louise Binder, LLB, LLD (Hon)
Kymm Feldman, MD
Sean Hosein
Francis Mandy
Anita Rachlis, MD
Paul Sandstrom, PhD
Carol Swantee

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Eudice Goldberg, MD
Kim Johnson
Vicki Kett
Lynne Leonard, PhD
Ted Myers, PhD
Esther Tharao

**Health Services and Access to
Care Working Group**

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Pamela Bowes
Roy Cain, PhD
Anne Marie DiCenso
Sarah Flicker
Jennifer Furtney
Ken King
Deborah Kopansky-Giles, DC
Alan Li, MD
Mathew Perry

SCIENTIFIC REVIEW COMMITTEE

Steffanie Strathdee, PhD (Chair)
(California)
Alan Cochrane, PhD (Ex-Officio)
Peggy Millson, MD (Ex-Officio)

Basic Science

Nicole Bernard, PhD (Montreal)
Richard Harrigan, PhD (Vancouver)
Sean Hosein
Charles Rinaldo, PhD (Pittsburgh)

Clinical Science

Rodger MacArthur, MD (Michigan)
Anita Palepu, MD (Vancouver)
Anita Rachlis, MD
Deborah Randall-Woods

Epidemiology

Chris Archibald, MD
Patricia O'Campo, PhD
Robert Remis, MD
Esther Tharao

Socio Behavioral

Barry Adam, PhD
Thomas Kerr, PhD (Vancouver)
Thomas Patterson, PhD (California)
Winston Husbands, PhD

**RESEARCH CONFERENCE
PLANNING COMMITTEE 2004**

Sean B. Rourke, PhD (Co-Chair)
Brian Cornelson, MD (Co-Chair)
Jonathan Angel, MD
Thomas Egdorf
Saara Greene, PhD
Gregory Robinson, MD
Rick Kennedy
Lynne Leonard, PhD
Mona Loutfy, MD
Rob MacKay
Frank McGee
Steffanie Strathdee, PhD (California)

*All volunteers are Ontario-based
unless otherwise noted.*

OHTN Research Conference 2004

On November 25 and 26, 2004, the OHTN held its annual Research Conference at the Toronto Hilton. Highlights included a presentation by photographer Jacob Peters and the inaugural Susan King lecture, presented by Dr. Stanley Read.



From left: OHTN Scientific and Executive Director Sean Rourke, Sean Hosein of the Canadian AIDS Treatment Information Exchange and photographer Jake Peters



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Laurie Edmiston of the Canadian AIDS Treatment Information Exchange with special presenter Jake Peters



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Delegates networking at the Positive Action Fund reception



From left: Thomas Egdorf of the Ontario AIDS Network, Lynne Leonard of the University of Ottawa and Paul Lavigne of Ottawa Public Health



Farman Ali of the University of Toronto discusses his poster exhibit



© Srd Calzavara

From left: Clemon George of the University of Toronto, Glen Brown, Stanley Read of the Hospital for Sick Children, Liviana Calzavara of the University of Toronto and Carol Swantee of the HIV Central Public Health Laboratories



Ron Rosenes, Co-Chair OHTN Community Network with Kelly MacDonald, OHTN Chair in HIV Research, University of Toronto



From left: Winston Husbands of the AIDS Committee of Toronto, James Murray of the AIDS Bureau Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and John Maxwell of the AIDS Committee of Toronto



From left: Erika Lawson of the University of Toronto, Barry Adam of the University of Windsor, Francisca Omorodion of the University of Windsor and Philipine Ishak

Funded Research

The OHTN funded the following research projects in 2004.

RESEARCH OPERATING GRANTS

Reina Bendayan, PhD

Transport of Antiretroviral Drugs in the Human Brain \$151,527

Roy Cain, PhD

Understanding and Responding to Depression Among Aboriginal People Living with HIV/AIDS \$60,172

Curtis Cooper, MD

A Randomized, Placebo Controlled Trial of Citalopram for the Prevention of Depression and its Consequences in HIV-Hepatitis C coinfecting Individuals Initiating Pegylated Interferon/Ribavirin Therapy \$111,285

Scott Gray-Owen, MD

Impact of Neisseria Gonorrhoeae on HIV-1 Replication and Immunity \$210,181

Rupert Kaul, MD, PhD

Mucosal Immunology, Genital Infections and Antiviral Therapy: Effects of HIV-1 Shedding and Susceptibility in the Genital Tract \$270,000

Kelly MacDonald, MD

Qualitative Differences in CD8 Effector Function, Impact on HIV Immune Selection \$189,000

Ana Johnson-Masotti, PhD

A Pilot Project to Evaluate the Cost-Effectiveness of Public Health Interventions to Reduce AIDS/HIV and Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) \$174,005

Kenneth Rosenthal, PhD

Development of Continuous antigenic Stimulation System (CASS) as a Novel Vaccination Strategy for HIV-1 \$263,880

Sean B. Rourke, PhD

Neurobehavioural Program of Research in HIV/AIDS \$252,975

Sergio Rueda

Effects of Smoked Cannabis on Body Weight, Food Intake, and Appetite Stimulation in HIV/AIDS: An Open-label, Single Arm, Dose Titration Study \$256,500

Juan Carlos Zuniga-Pflucker, PhD

Characterization of Human T Cell Development In Vitro from Defined Sources of Stem Cells by Delta-like Notch Ligands for CD4 T Cell Immune-Reconstitution \$219,240

CAREER SCIENTIST AWARDS

Alan Cochrane, PhD

Controlling HIV-1 Replication Through Alterations in Viral RNA Processing \$72,000/year (2 years)

Ashok Kumar, PhD

Cytokines in HIV Immunopathogenesis: Signaling Pathways Involved in the Dysregulated Production of Cytokines and in Impaired Cytokine Responsiveness in Monocytic and HIV Specific Cytotoxic T cells \$72,000/year (2 years)

Janet Raboud, PhD

Investigations into Clinical Outcomes and Adverse Events Among HIV Infected Individuals Receiving Antiretroviral Therapy \$51,000/year (2 years)

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS**Karen Copeland, PhD**

Cell-mediated Immune Responses: Identification of Potential Treatments for HIV Infection \$52,000/year (2 years)

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS**Katrina Gee, PhD**

Regulation of IL-10 and IL-12 Production by HIV Regulatory Protein Tat and Nef in Human Monocytic Cells \$45,000/year (2 years)

Ross La Motte-Mohs, PhD

Development of an In Vitro Coculture System for the Generation of T Lymphocytes from Human Embryonic Stem Cells and Cord Blood Hematopoietic Stem Cells \$45,000 (1 year)

Anuradha Rebbapragada, PhD

Cellular Immune Control of HIV-1 in the Female Genital Tract \$45,000 (1 year)

Brent Robb, PhD

Medical School Identification and Evaluation of Genes Involved in HIV Transcriptional Induction via P-TEFb Activation as Potential Antiviral Therapeutic Targets: an RNA Interference-based approach \$45,000/year (2 years)

JUNIOR INVESTIGATOR DEVELOPMENT AWARDS**Jin Su**

Evaluation of Vaccine Vectors Implemented with Immuno-modulatory Mechanisms as HIV Vaccine Candidates \$244,500 (5 years)

STUDENTSHIP AWARDS**Natasha Christie**

Characterizing Protective and Non-Protective CTL Responses in HIV Infection \$22,000/year (2 years)

Sumiti Jain

Developing a Vaccine Model to Induce a Humoral and Mucosal Immune Response Against HIV-1 \$22,000/year (2 years)

Agatha Komsic

Regulation of IL-7 Receptor (CD127) Expression on Circulation CD8+ T Cells in HIV Infection and its Role in Cytotoxicity \$22,000/year (2 years)

Arielle Lasry

HIV Resource Allocation in Low-income Settings \$22,000/year (2 years)

Kim Marsh

Sam68deltaC: Molecular Mechanism of Rev Inhibition \$22,000/year (2 years)

Edward Mills

Designing Optimal Pharmacokinetic Trials to Predict Antiretroviral Drug Interactions with Traditional Medicines \$22,000/year (2 years)

Prameet Sheth

Cellular Immune Control of HIV-1 in the Male Genital Tract \$22,000/year (2 years)

PRIORITY INITIATIVE PROGRAM GRANTS**Gordon Arbess, MD**

HIV/AIDS Care at St. Michael's Hospital: Experience of HIV Positive African and Caribbean Women – Protocol Development \$8,250

Roy Cain, PhD

Capacity-building Component of the Aboriginal Mental Health Community-based Research Study \$50,000

Colin Kovacs, MD

An Open-label Assessment of Patient Satisfaction Following Poly-lactic Acid Injection for the Treatment of HIV-associated Facial Lipoatrophy – Protocol Development \$9,760

Colin Kovacs, MD

A Prospective and Retrospective Study of Syphilis Treatment in HIV Infected Persons in Toronto – Protocol Development \$10,000

Ruthann Tucker

Assessing the Housing Needs of PHAs in Ontario Today and Into the Future: A Community-based Research Response to Housing: Phase Two \$75,000

OHTN Staff

Sean B. Rourke, PhD

Scientific and Executive Director

Susan Barruch

Administrative Coordinator

Linda Brown

Research Administrative Assistant,
HIIP

Kevin Challacombe

Senior Data Technician, HIIP

Beverly Deutsch

Administrative Assistant, PIP

Robert Duck

Director, HIIP

Tom Fleming

Research Administrator, IDRP

Luisa Frescura

Research Assistant, HIIP

Meri Gec (from January 05)

Financial Coordinator

Paul Henman

Project Manager, HIIP

Robert Hudder

Database Administrator, HIIP

Teij Janki

IT Coordinator

William Lau

Coordinator, PIP

Rose Lising

Administrative Assistant, IDRP

Carol Major

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Greg Mitchell

Business Analyst

Daniel Neibert

Data & Informatics Coordinator, HIIP

Barry Plant

Clinic Relations Coordinator, HIIP

Kam Roshan (to March 05)

Senior Business Analyst, HIIP

Joe Sorbara

Data Technician, HIIP

Chelvi Srishankar

Help Desk/Implementation
Support, HIIP

Sergiy Tyshchenko

Programmer/Tech Support

Kevin Yemm

Data Technician, HIIP

Misa Yoshizaki

Receptionist

HOOD Data Collectors

Daryl Bell

Cathy Craig

Brenda Done

Michelle Ellis

Gail Howlett

Jane McKinley

Anja McNeil

Pat Rivet

Suzanne Sharples

Sharifia Sumar

Beth Watson-Brooker



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